
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Howarth et al.

Attorney Docket No.: CISC347/289667

Application No.: 10/693,279

Examiner: Nguyen, Dustin

Filed: October 23, 2003

Group: 2454

Title: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR
SHARING CONTENT ON A NETWORK

Confirmation No.: 4138

CERTIFICATE OF EFS-WEB TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically through EFS-WEB to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 15, 2009.

Signed: /Roger S. Sampson/
Roger S. Sampson

APPLICANTS' INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants' Attorney thanks Examiner Nguyen for discussing the above-referenced application in a telephonic interview on November 3, 2009. In the interview, it was agreed to amend the claims by way of Examiner's Amendment in order to advance prosecution. Subsequently, it was agreed that the proposed claim amendments provided herein have put the application in condition for allowance.

The proposed claim amendments are provided for the Examiner's convenience. The claim amendments are marked in relation to the previous amendment, filed on July 28, 2009. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding these proposed amendments, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Proposed Claims for Examiner's Amendment

1. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium with a computer program stored thereon for providing controlled access to a home network, the computer program including instructions for causing one or more devices of the home network to perform steps comprising:

receiving a log-in attempt from a remote user, the log-in attempt originating from an Internet protocol address, the remote user communicating with the home network via a first protocol suitable for Internet communication;

verifying that the remote user is an authorized user of the home network;

generating a network address translation rule associating the Internet protocol address with a port of a device on the home network;

dynamically generating a Web page, the Web page including links to content on one or more devices on the home network, the content accessible to the one or more devices via a second ~~content~~ protocol, the second protocol being different from the first protocol, the second protocol being a content protocol that allows local file sharing of content, wherein the local file sharing of content comprises one or more devices reading files stored on one or more different devices, the Web page allowing the remote user to select only content or services that the remote user is authorized to select;

transmitting, from a gateway of the home network, the Web page to the remote user;

receiving a selection request from the remote user;

receiving content from the device using a content protocol and without accessing a Web server; and

providing content or services to the remote user according to the selection request, wherein the receiving, verifying, generating and providing are performed by one or more devices of the home network.

2. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, the computer program further comprising instructions for causing ~~[[a]]~~ the gateway of the home network to transmit authentication information regarding the remote user to one or more devices of the home network after verifying that the remote user is an authorized user of the home network.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the first protocol is HTTP.

5. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the second protocol is one of Windows networking (smb) or UPnP.

6. (Currently Amended) A gateway configured to provide controlled access to a home network, the gateway comprising:

a first port configured to receive a log-in attempt from a remote user, the log-in attempt originating from an Internet protocol address, the remote user communicating with the home network via a first protocol suitable for Internet communication;

a second port configured for attaching a network device of the home network; and
at least one processor configured to:

verify that the remote user is an authorized user of the home network;

generate a network address translation rule associating the Internet protocol address with the second port;

dynamically generate a Web page, the Web page including links to content on one or more devices on the home network, the content accessible to the gateway via a ~~content~~ second protocol, the second protocol being different from the first protocol, the second protocol being a content protocol that allows local file sharing of content, wherein the local file sharing of content comprises one or more devices reading files stored on one or more different devices, the Web page allowing the remote user to select only content or services that the remote user is authorized to select;

transmit the Web page to the remote user;

receive a selection request from the remote user;

receive content from the network device using a content protocol and without accessing a Web server; and

provide content or services to the remote user from the network device attached to the second port according to the selection request.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of providing controlled access to a home network, the method comprising:

receiving, at the home network, a log-in request from a remote user, the remote user communicating with the home network via a first protocol suitable for Internet communication;

capturing, at the home network, the remote user's Internet protocol address;

authenticating the remote user;
 automatically providing access to predetermined content, services or devices by the authenticated remote user;
 dynamically generating a Web page, the Web page including links to content on one or more devices on the home network, the content accessible to the gateway via a ~~content~~ second protocol, the second protocol being different from the first protocol, the second protocol being a content protocol that allows local file sharing of content, wherein the local file sharing of content comprises one or more devices reading files stored on one or more different devices, the Web page allowing the remote user to select from the predetermined content, services or devices;
 automatically transmitting, from a gateway of the home network, the Web page to the remote user;
 receiving content from a network device using a content protocol and without accessing a Web server; and
 providing access to a portion of the predetermined content, services or devices according to a selection of the remote user.

8. (Currently Amended) A home network, comprising:
 - a first network device configured to provide content using a content protocol, wherein the first network device is not configured to provide content via a Web server; and
 - a gateway comprising a first port and a second port, the gateway configured to
 - communicate with the first network device via the first port;
 - communicate with an external network via the second port;
 - receive a log-in attempt from a remote user, the log-in attempt originating from an address on the external network, the remote user communicating with the home network via a first protocol suitable for Internet communication;
 - verify that the remote user is an authorized user of the home network;
 - generate a network address translation rule associating the address with the first port;
 - dynamically generate a Web page, the Web page including links to content on one or more devices on the home network, the content accessible to the gateway via a ~~content~~ second protocol, the second protocol being different from the first protocol, the second protocol being a content protocol that allows local file sharing of content, wherein the local file sharing of content comprises one or more devices reading files stored on one or

more different devices, the Web page allowing the remote user to select only content that the remote user is authorized to select;

transmit the Web page to the remote user;

receive a first selection request from the remote user;

receive content from the first network device using the content protocol; and

provide content to the remote user from the first network device according to the first selection request.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Original) The home network of claim 8, wherein the first network device comprises a personal computer or a network attached storage device.

11. (Original) The home network of claim 8, further comprising a second network device, the gateway being further configured to:

display the graphical user interface to the remote user, the graphical user interface allowing the remote user to select services from the second network device that the remote user is authorized to select;

receive a second selection request from the remote user; and

provide services to the remote user from the second network device according to the second selection request.

12. (Original) The home network of claim 11, wherein the second network device is a webcam or a device for streaming audio data.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for providing controlled access to a home network, the method performed by one or more devices of the home network, the method comprising:

receiving a log-in attempt from a remote user, the log-in attempt originating from an Internet protocol address, the remote user communicating with the home network via a first protocol suitable for Internet communication;

automatically verifying that the remote user is an authorized user of the home network;

automatically generating a network address translation rule associating the Internet protocol address with a port of a device on the home network;

automatically generating a Web page, the Web page including links to content on one or more devices on the home network, the content accessible to the one or more devices of the home network via a ~~content~~ second protocol, the second protocol being different from the first

protocol, the second protocol being a content protocol that allows local file sharing of content, wherein the local file sharing of content comprises one or more devices reading files stored on one or more different devices, the Web page allowing the remote user to select only content or services that the remote user is authorized to select;

transmitting, from a gateway of the home network, the Web page to the remote user;

receiving a selection request from the remote user;

receiving content from the device using a content protocol and without accessing a Web server; and

automatically providing content or services to the remote user according to the selection request, wherein the receiving, verifying, generating and providing are performed by one or more devices of the home network.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of automatically transmitting authentication information regarding the remote user to one or more devices of the home network after automatically verifying that the remote user is an authorized user of the home network.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[15]] 13, wherein the first protocol is HTTP.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[15]] 13, wherein the second protocol is one of Windows networking (smb) or UPnP.

18. (Currently Amended) A gateway for providing controlled access to a home network, the gateway comprising:

means for receiving a log-in attempt from a remote user, the log-in attempt originating from an Internet protocol address, the remote user communicating with the home network via a first protocol suitable for Internet communication;

means for verifying that the remote user is an authorized user of the home network;

means for generating a network address translation rule associating the Internet protocol address with a port of a device on the home network;

means for dynamically generating a Web page, the Web page including links to content on one or more devices on the home network, the content accessible to the gateway via a ~~content~~ second protocol, the second protocol being different from the first protocol, the second protocol

being a content protocol that allows local file sharing of content, wherein the local file sharing of content comprises one or more devices reading files stored on one or more different devices, the Web page allowing the remote user to select only content or services that the remote user is authorized to select;

means for transmitting the Web page to the remote user;

means for receiving a selection request from the remote user;

means for receiving content from the device using a content protocol and without accessing a Web server; and

means for providing content or services to the remote user according to the selection request.

Conclusion

For at least the above reasons, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should the Examiner believe that there are any further issues that need to be resolved before a Notice of Allowance be issued, Applicants' attorney requests that the Examiner contact him at the telephone number set forth below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment directly to the account of the undersigned, No. 50-4480 (Order No.CISCP588).

Respectfully submitted,
Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP

/Roger S. Sampson/
Roger S. Sampson
Reg. No. 44,314

P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
510-663-1100